

1-7 Works to Put ICDC on the Streets



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

A Soldier with the 1st Squadron, 7th Regiment Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division works with an Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC) soldier from Bravo Co., 304th ICDC Battalion as they search buildings during a cordon and search operation in the Al Rashid district of Baghdad. It was the first time Bravo Co. worked together at the company level in the First Team's area of operations.

After the Weapons Buyback: *The Critical Task of Explosive and Ordnance Disposal*

THAWRA, Baghdad— aggressive weapons buyback program, which took place in the Thawra district. The program aimed to disarm the local



Submitted by 1st Brigade Combat Team

At a Remote Turn-In Site, EOD Teams and Explosive Ordnance Reconnaissance Agents from Companies A and C, 20th Engineer Bn., separate the ordnance turned in before transporting it to the 1st Brigade Combat Team's Disposal Site.

By Spc. Andy Miller

122nd MPAD

AL RASHID, Iraq- They arrived by truck, secured the area and quickly moved into position. They were there to complete a cordon and search operation planned by Soldiers from 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division. The Soldiers on the ground weren't all American though; most of them were Iraqi.

To help prepare them for this kind of 'real world' mission, the 1-7 Cav. Soldiers trained with Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC) soldiers from the 304th ICDC Battalion for months.

Capt. Martin Wohlgemuth, a fire support officer with 1-7 Cav., has been involved with training ICDC Bravo and

Charlie companies since he arrived in Baghdad three months ago. After watching them progress on mission essential task list (METL) skills and certification, he decided they were ready to test their skills in a combat environment.

On May 27, under the guidance of 1-7 Cav. troops, ICDC Bravo Company conducted a cordon and search mission in the Al Sowaib area of Al Rashid. It was the first company-wide ICDC combat operation in the First Team's area of operations. According to Wohlgemuth, the ICDC soldiers did exactly what they were trained to do.

"We had a team that went in and cleared the building, another team that went in and

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populace while infusing money into a devastated economy.

Word of the generous offer spread throughout the area. On a daily basis, the 1st Brigade Combat Team was inundated with thousands of weapons and tons of explosives and munitions delivered to remote turn-in sites. Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment and 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment provided security for the weapons turn-in sites.

The difficult task to handle, sort, transport, and finally destroy the prodigious amount

of ordnance was shouldered by five specialized Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Teams and the soldiers of the 20th Engineer Battalion "Lumberjacks".

Ordinarily, the 1BCT is allocated two EOD Teams. However, for this large undertaking, the brigade requested assistance from the 1st Cavalry Division to get three additional teams — from the Air Force and Navy.

Supplemented by select Soldiers from the 20th Engineers who were trained at Fort Hood as Explosive

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1-7 Cav. Soldiers Observe ICDC Success

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searched, and they did exactly that," Wohlgemuth said. "[They] searched the buildings. We found plenty of weapons with ammunition. I couldn't have asked for anything more. They exceeded everybody's

expectations."

For ICDC instructor, Staff Sgt. Faletoa Sea, a fire support noncommissioned officer with 1-7 Cav., it was a feeling of accomplishment to watch the ICDC soldiers perform successfully in a 'real world' oper-

ation.

"Even though they're not 100 percent, I was very pleased with their performance," Sea said. "[We need] to make sure they can do the job, so when we leave, it can be a better place for the citizens of Iraq."

were being evaluated by the 1-7 Soldiers on the ground with them. It was their to use their training, and that's what they did, according to Lt. Jason Dudley, an ICDC trainer with 1-7 Cavalry.

Inside the building, the ICDC squad leader competently responded to situations that are typically only seen in higher level training situations, Dudley said.

"That's the level of proactivity that [noncommissioned officers] need to have at the critical moment, and that was what impressed me," Dudley said. "That was when I realized we don't need to spoon feed these guys anymore."

When the 1-7 Cav. Soldiers took control of the ICDC training program, the plan was to get the new Iraqi soldiers prepared to conduct operations on their own by mid July. Ultimately, the expectation is that the ICDC, along with other Iraqi security forces, will replace the need for a coalition security presence in Baghdad.

"I think the ICDC represents our ideals because most of Iraqi people want to help their country," ICDC Sgt. Maj. Hassan Abdul Kadum, the ICDC 40th brigade sergeant major, said. "I think my country depends on us. We must lead our country so we must fight."

When ICDC Bravo Co. went into the fight together for the first time, they knew they

After months of training, battle drills and METL certification, the ICDC soldiers have achieved a standard acceptable to the First Team. When the moment came, the ICDC came up with a victory. Along with a performance that pleased their 1-7 trainers, the ICDC soldiers successfully seized several illegal sniper weapons with ammunition, along with a quantity of counterfeit money.






By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Capt. Martin Wohlgemuth, a fire support officer with 1st Squadron, 7th Regiment Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division talks with an Iraqi Civil Defense Corp (ICDC) soldier from Bravo Co., 304th ICDC Battalion at a cordon and search site in the Al Rashid district of Baghdad. The ICDC Company completed the cordon and search operation with supervision from the 1-7 Cav. Soldiers at the site. The operation netted several illegal weapons with ammunition along with a quantity of counterfeit currency.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Do you need help?

taH-taj-uun mu-saa-da?

Baghdad, Iraq		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
High: 113 Low: 81	High: 108 Low: 79	High: 105 Low: 75
		

Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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Every 19 Years, Factors Line Up to Create Lowest Low Tides

► From AP

SEATTLE- From barnacles to limpets, crabs and sea stars, the lowest tides in 19 years are revealing all sorts of unusual creatures trapped in tide pools — to the delight of beach-combing masses.

Hundreds of people hit the sands Friday, with many more expected to head out over the weekend.

"It's really, really interesting. It gives you a window into what is there all the time that you don't see — sea cucumbers, sea stars, maybe an octopus," said Polly Freeman, a local naturalist who brought her 20-month-old son, Nate, to the beach at Seattle's Golden Gardens park.

There are 36 factors that affect the tides, from the Earth's proximity to the sun and the moon to the moon's angle in relation to the equator, said Richard Strickland, who teaches oceanography at the University of Washington.

Every 19 years, those factors line up just so — creating the lowest low tides and the greatest differences between low and high tides, he said. Virtually everywhere outside of the tropics will have seen the lowest low tides in 19 years between about Friday and Sunday, he said.

"It's almost as if you have two watches, and one is running a little fast," Strickland said. "Somewhere down the road, one will be 12 hours faster than the other, but in twice that time they'll be back in sync."

Puget Sound's lowest tide is more noticeable than most because it's shallower than open ocean beaches, and the sound acts as a smaller container: When the tide drops to 4.1 vertical feet below the average low tide, as it did Friday at 12:26 p.m., the water can recede hundreds of yards from

shore. The rest of this weekend, July 3 and 4, and a few other dates this summer will also offer extremely low tides.

While Friday's was the lowest in 19 years in Puget Sound, it's actually not much lower than other lowest-tides of recent years — less than six inches difference — but that small amount can reveal a lot of life.

As the water recedes, it strands creatures in the muddy pools left behind: anemones, barnacles, moon snails, clingfish and lots of fragrant, rotting seaweed. Clams become easy

picking for gulls, herons and people alike. Oregon was expecting a rush of razor clam hunters on its northern beaches, where they hoped to take advantage of the minus-tide there, said Anne Pressentin of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department.

Along with the low tides come high tides that are slightly higher than usual, though the state's highest tide will come close to the winter solstice, in December. High tides are more of a concern at that time of year because of the increased likelihood of storms.



A great blue heron takes flight during a low tide at Golden Gardens State Park in Seattle, Friday, June 4. Tides are at their lowest in 19 years on Puget Sound.

Recovery of Thousands of Rifles, Tons of Explosives All in a Day's Work

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Ordnance Reconnaissance Agents, the EOD teams put in hundreds of man-hours assessing the value and hazard of the munitions and conducted dozens of convoys transporting the munitions to a brigade disposal site, secured by the "Animals" of A Company, 20th Engineers.

How much ammunition was brought to the disposal site?

"I'll put it to you this way, we got a workout downloading ordnance off of trucks for 12 straight hours before prepping it for disposal," said one A Company platoon sergeant.

The EOD teams disposed of most of the weapons turned

in; however, the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps redistributed a large number of the weapons for their use.

"We are pretty whipped, but at the end of the day, I know we recovered thousands of rifles and tons of explosives, and that means less we have to worry about in the future," said one EOD team leader.

Although the program was initiated on May 15, an extension was needed to dispose of the high number of munitions collected.

In the end, more than three tons of ordnance and thousands of small arms weapons were turned in, making the streets of Baghdad safer for the Iraqi people.

'The Gipper' Began Lifetime Sports Association in Dixon

► From *ESPN.com news services*

When Ronald Reagan was 9, his family settled for good in Dixon, Ill., and the future president started his association with sports that lasted a lifetime.

At Dixon High School, Reagan, who died Saturday at 93, participated in football, basketball and track besides acting in school plays and winning his first election, as president of the student body. He worked for seven summers as an \$18-a-week lifeguard.

In the fall of 1928, Reagan enrolled in Eureka College, near Peoria, where he took part in football, track and swimming, while majoring in economics and sociology, taking part in dramatics and again being elected student body president.

After graduation, he continued his association with sports, going to Chicago to seek a job in the young medium of radio and was advised by a station receptionist to try "what

we call the sticks."

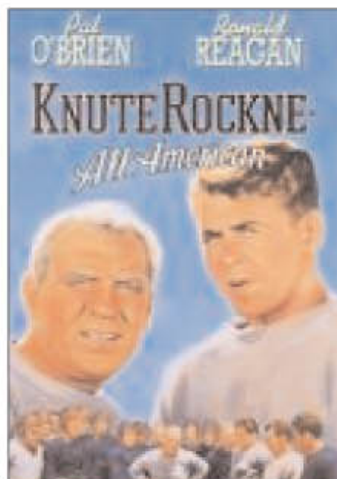
He got a job as a \$10-a-game sports announcer for WOC in Davenport, Iowa, and went on to a \$75-a-week salaried position at WHO in Des Moines. He covered track meets, title fights and Big Ten football live, and simulated broadcasts of Chicago Cubs baseball from a play-by-play telegraph wire.

He lined up a screen test while in California for Cubs spring training, was signed to a \$200-a-week contract and made his debut as a radio announcer in the 1937 film, "Love is on the Air."

In his first four years, Reagan made 28 movies. He got his first big break as the halfback George Gipp in "Knut Rockne, All-American" in 1940. He later played pitcher Grover Cleveland Alexander in 1952's "The Winning Team."

But, it was his role as Gipp that cemented Reagan's connection with sports. It was Gipp, in the movie, who

implored the coach from his deathbed to have the boys "win one for the Gipper," a phrase associated with Reagan for the rest of his life.



Warner Bros

The movie poster for "Knut Rockne - All American" features Reagan in his portrayal of Notre Dame football star George "The Gipper" Gipp. During his years as president, he used a line from the movie, "Win one for the Gipper," to rally political teammates.

Today in History

June 8

► From *historychannel.com*

632 Muhammad, founder of Islam, dies

1862 Battle of Cross Keys

1874 Apache Chief Cochise dies

1967 Israel attacks the USS Liberty in international waters off of Egypt's Gaza Strip

1968 Senator Robert Kennedy buried at Arlington National Cemetery

1968 Martin Luther King assassination suspect, James Earl Ray, an escaped American convict, arrested in London, England

1969 President Nixon and South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu meet at Midway Island in the Pacific

1986 Former United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim elected president of Austria

1999 Hannibal, the final book in the Hannibal Lecter series by Thomas Harris, hits bookstores

TV GUIDE	AFN ATLANTIC	AFN PACIFIC	AFN Sports	AFN Spectrum
6 p.m.	Lizzie McGuire/ All That!	The Tonight Show with Jay Leno/ The Late Show with David Letterman	Ballroom Boxing	The Hurricane 4 p.m./ Ebert & Roeper At The Movies
7 p.m.	Jeopardy/ Headline News	Access Hollywood 7:45 p.m.	SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys/ Spongebob Squarepants
8 p.m.	ESPNews/ Headline News	Addams Family Values 8:15 p.m.	NASCAR Nextel Cup Series - MBNA American 400 "A Salute to Heroes"	The Simpsons/ Happy Days
9 p.m.	7th Heaven			Monk
10 p.m.	John Q	Single White Female		ER



NHL

STANLEY CUP FINALS
(Best of 7 series)

Tampa Bay 2
Calgary 1

(Tampa Bay wins series 4-3)



NBA

FINALS
(Best of 7 series)
Game 1 - Sunday

Detroit 87
@ Los Angeles 75

(Detroit leads series 1-0)